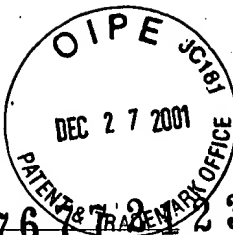


EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE



*B/H/S*  
*1/17/02*  
*[Signature]*

Date 12/27/01 Label No. EL 76-72334  
I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or  
fee was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was  
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Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to  
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PLEASE CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY UP TO \$300.00 OR  
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A. DiLullo A. DiLullo  
Name (Print) Signature

Customer No.:



07278

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No: 0866/OJ839

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Vladimir POGREBINSKY et al.

Serial No: 09/955,744

Art Unit: 2661

Filed: September 14, 2001

Examiner: TBA

Confirmation No.: 9488

For: FLOW CONTROL METHOD AND APPARATUS

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as  
follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following  
rewritten paragraph: